

PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED US

AUGUSTE LESPINAS

As a tribute to his great help to our Association and being not able to thank him in a different way, as he is no longer with us, we state, hereunder, an extract from his book: 'Douze siècles de Jeux Olympiques' 'Twelve centuries of Olympic Games', Paris 2004:

THE FOOT RACE

"GENESIS: a very easy contest to organise and the oldest one in human history. During the first Olympic Games there was only one official competition and that was the foot race, which, according to Pindarus, commemorated the first foot race held by Hercules among his brothers. Xenophanes, founder of the philosophical school, considered the swiftness of feet as the highest quality, poets and philosophers praised the speed of feet. Homer reports the foot race competition held by Achilles in honour of his dead friend Patrocles, in which Ulysses beat Ajax. It was not rare for a King to part, following a foot race contest the husband for his daughter".

GEORGE KOSTOUROS

Civil Engineer and writer from Nemea

For the mythological and historical documentation of the racing paths. Author of book "Nemea athla"(www.nemeathla.gr).

YIANNIS A. PIKOULAS

Professor of Ancient Greek History at the University of Thessaly

He has been very kind to indicate us the areas where remains of ancient roads have been traced in relation with our race route. He has also conducted for us a visit in these areas, so that we could have a direct contact with the results of his long standing and intensive researches. He has recently cleared up certain points on which we needed some further documentation. Our information on the ancient road network, in general, is drawn from his book

“Ancient Road network and Defence” and from a number of Acts of Congresses in Greece and abroad, which he has kindly offered to us.

STEPHANOS PSIMENOS

Publisher and writer

(www.terrainmaps.gr)

He offered us his knowledge and experience since we first started thinking about the race. He is the writer of the excellent series of books “Unexplored Greece”.

Deeply acquainted with the unknown rough tracks of the Peloponnese, he is the first to map out the race route. This is why we consider him as “the father” of the Olympian race. He has also travelled with us to spot the areas and finally shape the route. We always draw information from his book “Unexplored Peloponnese”, while we can relay on him for any help we might need.